



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-354

Date: 18th October 2023

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 5th September 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding strikes.

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 I'm writing to request information from NHS trusts in England about how much was spent on locum and agency doctors during the walkouts held by both consultants and junior doctors over the past 12 months.

Please provide answers for each timeframe and separate each one clearly in your response.

These timeframes are:

- (A) Junior doctor strike – 13, 14 and 15 March 2023**
- (B) Junior doctor strike – 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 April**
- (C) Junior doctor strike – 14, 15, 16 and 17 June**
- (D) Junior doctor strike – 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 July**
- (E) Junior doctor strike – 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 August**
- (F) Consultant strike – 20 and 21 July**
- (G) Consultant strike – 24, 25 and 26 August**

For each given timeframe could you please provide the following information.

1. How many staff walked out as a result of industrial action over each period and what percentage of your junior doctor/consultant staff did this equate to. IE – 150 junior doctor staff walked out during 13, 14 and 15 March dates out of 200 junior doctor staff would be 75%.

A1 See below:

Question	Date	Job Role	Rostered	Striking	% Striking	Notes
A	13/03/2023	Junior	425	337	79%	

		Doctors				
	14/03/2023	Junior Doctors	377	355	94%	
	15/03/2023	Junior Doctors	373	279	75%	
B	11/04/2023	Junior Doctors	455	282	62%	
	12/04/2023	Junior Doctors	492	320	65%	
	13/04/2023	Junior Doctors	564	366	65%	
	14/04/2023	Junior Doctors	602	426	71%	
	15/04/2023	Junior Doctors	N/A	N/A	N/A	Strike ended at 7:00am.
C	14/06/2023	Junior Doctors	430	293	68%	
	15/06/2023	Junior Doctors	408	273	67%	
	16/06/2023	Junior Doctors	377	269	71%	
	17/06/2023	Junior Doctors	N/A	N/A	N/A	Strike ended at 7:00am.
D	13/07/2023	Junior Doctors	396	255	64%	
	14/07/2023	Junior Doctors	345	228	66%	
	15/07/2023	Junior Doctors	145	99	68%	
	16/07/2023	Junior Doctors	142	96	68%	
	17/07/2023	Junior Doctors	371	289	78%	
	18/07/2023	Junior Doctors	N/A	N/A	N/A	Strike ended at 7:00am.
E	11/08/2023	Junior Doctors	420	314	75%	
	12/08/2023	Junior Doctors	170	133	78%	
	13/08/2023	Junior Doctors	170	137	81%	
	14/08/2023	Junior Doctors	403	309	77%	
	15/08/2023	Junior Doctors	N/A	N/A	N/A	Strike ended at 7:00am.

F	20/07/2023	Consultant	355	81	23%	
	21/07/2023	Consultant	331	68	21%	
G	24/08/2023	Consultant	360	84	23%	
	25/08/2023	Consultant	327	73	22%	
	26/08/2023	Consultant	N/A	N/A	N/A	Strike ended at 7:00am.

Q2 How much did the Trust spend on locum/agency workers during each period specifically as a result of industrial action. If this specific figure is not held, please provide the locum and agency spend for the previous year for each relevant timeframe. IE 13, 14 and 15 March 2023 vs 13, 14 and 15 March 2022.

A2 We cannot provide this information: note: any report we could provide would include substantive staff and Dr bank payments.

Q3 Did the Trust allow doctors who were taking part in industrial action to take on locum shifts at the same trust during strike periods when they were not scheduled to work?

A3 Yes

**Q4 If the answer to the above question was yes,
(a) How many doctors did this during each period
(b) How much did the Trust spend on paying its own doctors for these shifts during each period?**

A4 We cannot provide this information: note: any report we could provide would include substantive staff and Dr bank payments.

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records